

# 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment

Colors are held by the 1st BN 44th ADA, FT Hood, TX

## HONORARY REGIMENTAL LEADERSHIP



**COL (Ret) VINCENT J. TEDESCO**  
**HONORARY COLONEL**  
**16 MAR 10 – 15 MAR 13**



**CSM (Ret) ROY J. AMERSON**  
**HONORARY SERGEANT MAJOR**  
**16 MAR 10 – 15 MAR 13**



**CW4 (Ret) SAM J. PIGNATELLA**  
**HONORARY WARRANT OFFICER**  
**16 MAR 10 – 15 MAR 13**

## COAT OF ARMS

### Shield

Gules, a bend double cottised potente counterpotente, or.

### Crest

On a wreath of the colors, or and gules, a double quatrefoil, or, charged with a chameleon displayed paleways barry of four gules and vert.

### Motto

*Per Ardua* (Through Difficulties)

### Symbolism

The shield is red for Artillery with a gold bend cottised potente counterpotente alluding to the arms of Lorraine and Champagne. The elements of this regiment changed several times between 1917 and 1918, and the variegated chameleon alludes to this fact. The double quatrefoil with the chameleon is an anagram of the figure "44."

### Distinctive Insignia

The distinctive insignia is the shield, crest, and motto of the coat of arms.

## LINEAGE AND HONORS

Organized 26 March 1918 in the Regular Army from existing units in France as the Howitzer Regiment, 30th Brigade, Coast Artillery Corps. Redesignated 7 August 1918 as the 44th Artillery (Coast Artillery Corps). Inactivated 31 August 1921 at Camp Jackson, South Carolina. Redesignated 1 July 1924 as the 44th Coast Artillery. Redesignated 13 January 1941 as the 54th Coast Artillery. Activated 10 February 1941 at Camp Wallace, Texas. Regiment broken up 28 February - 5 June 1944 and its elements reorganized and redesignated as follows: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery on 5 June 1944 as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 152nd Coast Artillery Group. 1st Battalion on 5 June 1944 as the 606th Coast Artillery Battalion. 2nd Battalion on 28 February 1944 as the 49th Coast Artillery Battalion. 3rd Battalion on 5 June 1944 as the 607th Coast Artillery Battalion.

After 5 June 1944 the above units underwent changes as follows: Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 152nd Coast Artillery Group, disbanded 3 August 1944 at Camp Livingston, Louisiana.

Reconstituted 28 June 1950 in the Regular Army as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 54th Field Artillery Group. Activated 17 January 1955 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Redesignated 21 June 1958 as Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 54th Artillery Group. Inactivated 7 November 1969 in Vietnam.

606th Coast Artillery Battalion disbanded 3 August 1944 at Camp Livingston, Louisiana. Reconstituted 28 June 1950 in the Regular Army; concurrently consolidated with the 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion (active) (see Annex 1) and consolidated unit designated as the 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion, an element of the 3rd Armored Division. Inactivated 1 October 1957 in Germany and relieved from assignment to the 3rd Armored Division.

49th Coast Artillery Battalion inactivated 20 January 1946 in the Philippine Islands. Consolidated 28 June 1950 with the 49th Field Artillery Battalion (active) (see Annex 2) and consolidated unit designated as the 49th Field Artillery Battalion, an element of the 7th Infantry Division. Inactivated 1 July 1957 in Korea and relieved from assignment to the 7th Infantry Division.

607th Coast Artillery Battalion disbanded 31 July 1944 at Camp Rucker, Alabama. Reconstituted 28 June 1950 in the Regular Army; concurrently consolidated with the 44th Field Artillery Battalion (active) (see Annex 3) and consolidated unit designated as the 44th Field Artillery Battalion, an element of the 4th Infantry Division.

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 54th Artillery Group; 54th Armored Field Artillery Battalion; and the 49th and 44th Field Artillery Battalions consolidated, reorganized, and redesignated 7 November 1969 as the 44th Artillery, a parent regiment under the Combat Arms Regimental System. Redesignated 1 September 1971 as the 44th Air Defense Artillery. Withdrawn 16 March 1988 from the Combat Arms Regimental System and reorganized under the United States Army Regimental System with Headquarters at Fort Lewis, Washington.

#### Annex 1

Constituted 1 October 1933 in the Regular Army as the 54th Field Artillery. Redesignated 13 January 1941 as the 54th Field Artillery Battalion and assigned to the 3rd Armored Division. Activated 15 April 1941 at Camp Beauregard, Louisiana. Reorganized and redesignated 1 January 1942 as the 54th Field Artillery Battalion. Inactivated 10 November 1945 in Germany. Activated 15 July 1947 at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

#### Annex 2

Constituted 1 October 1933 in the Regular Army as the 49th Field Artillery. Redesignated 1 June 1941 as the 49th Field Artillery Battalion, assigned to the 7th Division (later redesignated as the 7th Infantry Division), and activated at Fort Ord, California. Inactivated 20 July 1947 in Korea. Activated 20 March 1949 in Japan.

#### Annex 3

Constituted 1 October 1933 in the Regular Army as the 2nd Battalion, 47th Field Artillery. Activated 1 June 1941 at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Reorganized and redesignated 17 December 1941 as the 44th Field Artillery Battalion and assigned to the 4th Motorized Division (later redesignated as the 4th Infantry Division). Inactivated 18 February 1946 at Camp Butner, North Carolina. Activated 15 July 1947 at Fort Ord, California.

### CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION CREDIT

#### WORLD WAR I

Champagne-Marne  
St. Mihiel  
Lorraine 1918

Alsace 1918  
Champagne 1918

#### WORLD WAR II

Normandy (with arrowhead)  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe

Aleutian Islands (with arrowhead)  
Northern Solomons  
Eastern Mandates  
Leyte  
Ryukyus

#### KOREAN WAR

UN Defensive  
UN Offensive  
CCF Intervention  
First UN Counteroffensive  
CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer - Fall Offensive  
Second Korean Winter  
Korea, Summer - Fall 1952  
Third Korean Winter  
Korea, Summer 1953

#### VIETNAM

Counteroffensive, Phase II  
Counteroffensive, Phase III  
Tet Counteroffensive  
Counteroffensive, Phase IV  
Counteroffensive, Phase V  
Counteroffensive, Phase VI  
Tet 69/Counteroffensive

Summer - Fall 1969  
Winter-Spring 1970  
Sanctuary Counteroffensive  
Counteroffensive Phase VII  
Consolidation I  
Consolidation II

#### SOUTHWEST ASIA

Defense of Saudi Arabia

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

## DECORATIONS

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered **BEACHES OF NORMANDY**

Presidential Unit Citation (Army), Streamer embroidered **ST. LO**

Presidential Unit Citation (Navy), Streamer embroidered **VIETNAM 1966-1967**

Valorous Unit Award, Streamer embroidered **QUANG TRI-THUA THIEN**

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer embroidered **VIETNAM 1966-1967**

Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer embroidered **VIETNAM 1968-1969**

Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class, Streamer embroidered **VIETNAM 1966-1969**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Streamer embroidered **KOREA 1978-1980**